

Stavrianopoulos et al.
Serial No.: 08/486,070
Filed: June 7, 1995



Page 2 [Communication For Transmitting Declaration of Cheryl H. Agris, Ph.D.,
Attorney At Law (Following Applicants' April 26, 2001 Communication
- May 8, 2001)]

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REMARKS

Claims 718-1110 continue to be pending and under examination in this application. No claim changes have been effected by this Communication.

In their March 7, 2001 Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115, Applicants responded to a new matter rejection¹ in the September 7, 2000 Office Action relating to their claimed array claims.² The text of Applicants' response is set forth in their March 7, 2001 Amendment, beginning on page 54, last paragraph, and continuing through page 60, first full paragraph.

¹ In the September 7, 2000 Office Action (pages 4-5), the new matter rejection was given as follows:

[1] In claims 325-376 arrays are claimed. These claimed arrays start with the broadest versions in claim 325 as only requiring a substrate surface with double-stranded nucleic acid fixed or immobilized thereto with at least one strand labeled as described in said claim. The closest array description, as filed, is given in the specification on page 16, lines 9-27. In this description the array also is limited to glass plates having depressions or wells with denatured analytes deposited therein, wherein single stranded analytes are fixed to the surfaces of the wells. Chemically labeled probes may then be hybridized to these analytes and subjected to detection of any probe-analyte hybrid. It is noted that the analytes are characterized as being "various" which supports the presence of "different" analytes deposited in each well or depression. It is additionally noted that plastic wells are a disclosed option as given in the bridging sentence between pages 20 and 21 of the instant specification. Polystyrene microfilter wells are described on page 22, lines 10-12, as a solid support. The practice of fixing polynucleotide analytes to conventional microtiter plates is described on page 23 at the start of Example 7. In summary, the array embodiments, as filed, are all at least directed to solid supports with wells or depressions therein. It is lastly noted that instant claim 325 does not require either wells or depressions as being the form of the array of analyte fixation sites nor its being either glass or plastic, wherein microtiter arrays are deemed to be made of plastic. It is additionally noted that arrays of tubes or cuvettes as given in claim 340 has not been found as filed. Thus, the broader arrays as included in claim 325 contains NEW MATTER. Such broader array embodiments which are NEW MATTER, for example, include flat surface arrays or non-glass or non-plastic arrays. This NEW MATTER is contained in instant claims 325-376.

² In Applicants' March 7, 2001 Amendment, former array claims 325-376, cited in the September 7, 2000 Office Action *supra*, were canceled in favor of new solid support claims comprising an array of substrate surfaces as recited in new claims 718-872.

Stavrianopoulos et al.

Serial No.: 08/486,070

Filed: June 7, 1995

Page 3 [Communication For Transmitting Declaration of Cheryl H. Agris, Ph.D.,
Attorney At Law (Following Applicants' April 26, 2001 Communication
- May 8, 2001)]

The purpose of this Communication is to submit further evidence directed to the new matter rejection and the "array" issue. This evidence takes the form of a Declaration of Cheryl H. Agris, Ph.D., who is also an attorney at law and a person of ordinary skill in the art to which Applicants' claimed invention pertains. Dr. Agris's Declaration is attached to this Communication as Exhibit A. It is believed that Dr. Agris's Declaration will be helpful in resolving the new matter issue as it relates to the subject matter of Applicants' solid support claims (718-872), those claims having been newly presented in their March 7, 2001 Amendment.

Applicants respectfully request, therefore, the entry of Dr. Agris's Declaration into the record of the present application. Consideration of the evidence presented in Dr. Agris's Declaration is also respectfully requested as it pertains to the new matter rejection of the claims at hand.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

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Stavrianopoulos t al.

Serial No.: 08/486,070

Filed: June 7, 1995

Page 4 [Communication For Transmitting Declaration of Cheryl H. Agris, Ph.D.,
Attorney At Law (Following Applicants' April 26, 2001 Communication
- May 8, 2001)]

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Claims 718-1110 continue to be presented for further examination in this application. No changes to the claims have been effected by this Communication.

No fee or fees are believed to be due in connection with this Communication, a Request For An Extension Of Time (3 Months) and authorization for the fee having been previously filed with Applicants' March 7, 2001 Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115. In the event that any other fee or fees are due, however, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 05-1135, or to credit any overpayment thereto.

If a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of the present application, Applicants' undersigned attorney request that he be contacted at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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718. (NEW) A solid support comprising an array of substrate surfaces, each substrate surface comprising at least one double-stranded nucleic acid fixed or immobilized thereto, wherein at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom comprises one or more non-radioactive chemical labels which comprise a non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable or detectable, and wherein at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom in one of said substrate surfaces is different from at least one other nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom in another substrate surface. --

-- 719. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said solid support is selected from the group consisting of a porous solid support and a non-porous solid support. --

-- 720. (NEW) The solid support of claim 719, wherein said porous solid support comprises a porous polymeric material. --

-- 721. (NEW) The solid support of claim 720, wherein said porous polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of dextran and nitrocellulose. --

-- 722. (NEW) The solid support of claim 720, wherein said porous polymeric material comprises porous glass. --

-- 723. (NEW) The solid support of claim 719, wherein said non-porous solid support is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 724. (NEW) The solid support of claim 723, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 725. (NEW) The solid support of claim 724, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 726. (NEW) The solid support of claim 725, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 727. (NEW) The solid support of claim 723, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 728. (NEW) The solid support of claim 727, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 729. (NEW) The solid support of claim 727, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 730. (NEW) The solid support of claim 729, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 731. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said substrate surface or surfaces have been treated with a surface treatment agent. --

-- 732. (NEW) The solid support of claim 731, wherein said surface treatment agent is selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 733. (NEW) The solid support of claim 732, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an amine compound. --

-- 734. (NEW) The solid support of claim 733, wherein said amine compound is selected from the group consisting of duodecadiamine (DDA), polylysine (PPL), γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, ammonium acetate and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 735. (NEW) The solid support of claim 732, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an epoxy compound. --

-- 736. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom has been fixed or immobilized to said substrate surface or surfaces by a means selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 737. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom has been fixed or immobilized directly or indirectly to said substrate surface or surfaces. --

-- 738. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein one strand of each of said double-stranded nucleic acid strands is fixed or immobilized directly or indirectly to said substrate surface or surfaces. --

-- 739. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said double-stranded nucleic acid strands are fixed or immobilized to said substrate surfaces by sandwich hybridization. --

-- 740. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said nucleic acid strands are selected from the group consisting of single-stranded nucleic acid, double-stranded nucleic acid and partially double-stranded nucleic acid. --

-- 741. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said nucleic acid strands are selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA and a DNA-RNA hybrid. --

-- 742. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced. --

-- 743. (NEW) The solid support of claim 742, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced comprises a member selected from the group consisting of a gene or gene sequence, a pathogen or pathogenic sequence, an oncogene, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 744. (NEW) The solid support of claim 743, wherein any of said members comprises a mutation selected from the group consisting of a deletion, an insertion, an inversion, a point mutation, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 745. (NEW) The solid support of claim 742, wherein said complementary nucleic acid sequence or sequences are unlabeled. --

-- 746. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are the non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 747. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise a non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said solid support or said substrate surfaces or a system or collection or set containing said array or said substrate surfaces, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 748. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise a non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said solid support or said substrate surfaces or a system or collection or set containing said array or said substrate surfaces, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 749. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached covalently to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 750. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached covalently to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 751. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached directly or indirectly to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 752. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached directly or indirectly to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 753. (NEW) The solid support of claim 751, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 754. (NEW) The solid support of claim 752, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 755. (NEW) The solid support of claim 753, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --

-- 756. (NEW) The solid support of claim 754, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --

-- 757. (NEW) The solid support of claim 755, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --

-- 758. (NEW) The solid support of claim 756, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --

-- 759. (NEW) The solid support of claim 757, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --

-- 760. (NEW) The solid support of claim 758, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --

-- 761. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties of said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are covalently or non-covalently attached thereto. --

-- 762. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties of said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are directly attached thereto. --

-- 763. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties of said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are indirectly attached thereto. --

-- 764. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 765. (NEW) The solid support of claim 764, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 766. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 767. (NEW) The solid support of claim 766, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 768. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein a quantifiable or detectable non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 769. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein a quantifiable or detectable non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels. --

-- 770. (NEW) The solid support of 718, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 771. (NEW) The solid support of claim 770, wherein said directly produced non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 772. (NEW) The solid support of 718, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 773. (NEW) The solid support of claim 772, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

- 774. (NEW) The solid support of claim 773, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --
- 775. (NEW) The solid support of 746, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --
- 776. (NEW) The solid support of claim 775, wherein said directly produced non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --
- 777. (NEW) The solid support of 746, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --
- 778. (NEW) The solid support of claim 777, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --
- 779. (NEW) The solid support of claim 778, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --
- 780. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --
- 781. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagen compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --
- 782. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein a non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 783. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein a non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 784. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 785. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 786. (NEW) The solid support of claim 784, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 787. (NEW) The solid support of claim 785, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 788. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein a non-radioactive signal from said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable or detectable by photometric means. --

-- 789. (NEW) The solid support of claim 746, wherein a non-radioactive signal from said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable or detectable by photometric means. --

-- 790. (NEW) The solid support of claim 788, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 791. (NEW) The solid support of claim 789, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 792. (NEW) The solid support of claim 718, wherein said solid support is transparent or translucent. --

-- 793. (NEW) The solid support of claim 719, wherein said solid support is transparent or translucent. --

-- 794. (NEW) A collection or set comprising the solid support of any of claims 718 to 793. --

-- 795. (NEW) A collection or set comprising the solid support of claim 718, wherein said solid supports are porous. --

-- 796. (NEW) A collection or set comprising the solid support of claim 718, wherein said solid supports are non-porous. --

-- 797. (NEW) The collection or set of claim 796, wherein said non-porous solid supports are transparent or translucent. --

-- 798. (NEW) A non-porous system for retaining or containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises the solid support of any of claims 718-793. --

-- 799. (NEW) A non-porous system for retaining or containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises a collection or set of any of the solid supports of claims 718-793. --

-- 800. (NEW) A non-porous solid support comprising an array of substrate surfaces, each substrate surface comprising at least one nucleic acid strand fixed or immobilized thereto, and wherein at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom in one of said substrate surfaces is different from at least one other nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom in another substrate surface. --

-- 801. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said non-porous solid support is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 802. (NEW) The solid support of claim 801, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 803. (NEW) The solid support of claim 802, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 804. (NEW) The solid support of claim 803, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 805. (NEW) The solid support of claim 801, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 806. (NEW) The solid support of claim 805, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 807. (NEW) The solid support of claim 805, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 808. (NEW) The solid support of claim 807, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 809. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said substrate surface or surfaces have been treated with a surface treatment agent. --

-- 810. (NEW) The solid support of claim 809, wherein said surface treatment agent is selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 811. (NEW) The solid support of claim 810, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an amine compound. --

-- 812. (NEW) The solid support of claim 811, wherein said amine compound is selected from the group consisting of duodecylamine (DDA), polylysine (PPL), γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, ammonium acetate and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 813. (NEW) The solid support of claim 810, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an epoxy compound. --

-- 814. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom has been fixed or immobilized to said substrate surface or surfaces by a means selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 815. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom has been fixed or immobilized directly or indirectly to said substrate surface or surfaces. --

-- 816. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said nucleic acid strands are selected from the group consisting of single-stranded nucleic acid and partially double-stranded nucleic acid. --

-- 817. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said nucleic acid strands are selected from the group consisting of DNA and RNA. --

-- 818. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced. --

-- 819. (NEW) The solid support of claim 818, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced comprises a member selected from the group consisting of a gene or gene sequence, a pathogen or pathogenic sequence, an oncogene, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 820. (NEW) The solid support of claim 819, wherein any of said members comprises a mutation selected from the group consisting of a deletion, an insertion, an inversion, a point mutation, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 821. (NEW) The solid support of claim 818, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced comprises one or more non-radioactive chemical labels which comprise a non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable or detectable. --

-- 822. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are the non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 823. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise a non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said solid support or said substrate surfaces or a system or collection or set containing said array or said substrate surfaces, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 824. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise a non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said solid support or said substrate surfaces or a system or collection or set containing said array or said substrate surfaces, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 825. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached covalently to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 826. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached covalently to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 827. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached directly or indirectly to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --

- 828. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are attached directly or indirectly to said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --
- 829. (NEW) The solid support of claim 827, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --
- 830. (NEW) The solid support of claim 828, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said at least one nucleic acid strand or a sequence therefrom. --
- 831. (NEW) The solid support of claim 829, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --
- 832. (NEW) The solid support of claim 830, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --
- 833. (NEW) The solid support of claim 831, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --
- 834. (NEW) The solid support of claim 832, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --
- 835. (NEW) The solid support of claim 833, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --
- 836. (NEW) The solid support of claim 834, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --
- 837. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties of said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are covalently or non-covalently attached thereto. --

-- 838. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties of said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are directly attached thereto. --

-- 839. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties of said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are indirectly attached thereto. --

-- 840. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 841. (NEW) The solid support of claim 840, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 842. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 843. (NEW) The solid support of claim 842, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 844. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein a quantifiable or detectable non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 845. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein a quantifiable or detectable non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels. --

-- 846. (NEW) The solid support of 821, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 847. (NEW) The solid support of claim 846, wherein said directly produced non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 848. (NEW) The solid support of 821, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 849. (NEW) The solid support of claim 848, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 850. (NEW) The solid support of claim 849, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 851. (NEW) The solid support of 822, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 852. (NEW) The solid support of claim 851, wherein said directly produced non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 853. (NEW) The solid support of 822, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 854. (NEW) The solid support of claim 853, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 855. (NEW) The solid support of claim 854, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 856. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 857. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagen compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 858. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein a non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 859. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein a non-radioactive signal is generated or generatable from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 860. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 861. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein said non-radioactive chemical label or labels are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 862. (NEW) The solid support of claim 860, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 863. (NEW) The solid support of claim 861, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 864. (NEW) The solid support of claim 821, wherein a non-radioactive signal from said non-radioactive signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable or detectable by photometric means. --

-- 865. (NEW) The solid support of claim 822, wherein a non-radioactive signal from said non-radioactive chemical label or labels is quantifiable or detectable by photometric means. --

-- 866. (NEW) The solid support of claim 864, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 867. (NEW) The solid support of claim 865, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 868. (NEW) The solid support of claim 800, wherein said non-porous solid support is transparent or translucent. --

-- 869. (NEW) A collection or set comprising the non-porous solid supports of any of claims 800 to 868. --

-- 870. (NEW) A collection or set comprising the non-porous solid supports of claim 800, wherein said non-porous solid supports are transparent or translucent. --

-- 871. (NEW) A non-porous system for retaining or containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises the solid support of any of claims 800-868. --

-- 872. (NEW) A non-porous system for retaining or containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises a collection or set of any of the solid supports of claims 800-868. --

-- 873. (NEW) A composition of matter comprising:

a transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises:

- (i) a solid support contained within said transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system;
- (ii) a double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide which is directly or indirectly fixed or immobilized to said solid support;
- (iii) a chemical label or labels attached to one of said strands, said label or labels comprising a signaling entity or entities which are quantifiable in or from said fluid or solution or in or through said system, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels; and
- (iv) photometric means for quantifying said quantifiable signaling entity or entities. --

-- 874. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 875. (NEW) The composition of claim 874, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 876. (NEW) The composition of claim 875, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 877. (NEW) The composition of claim 876, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 878. (NEW) The composition of claim 874, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 879. (NEW) The composition of claim 878, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 880. (NEW) The composition of claim 878, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 881. (NEW) The composition of claim 880, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 882. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said solid support (i) is selected from the group consisting of a porous solid support and a non-porous solid support. --

-- 883. (NEW) The composition of claim 882, wherein said porous solid support (i) comprises a porous polymeric material. --

-- 884. (NEW) The composition of claim 883, wherein said porous polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of dextran and nitrocellulose. --

-- 885. (NEW) The composition of claim 883, wherein said porous polymeric material comprises porous glass. --

-- 886. (NEW) The composition of claim 882, wherein said non-porous solid support (i) is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 887. (NEW) The composition of claim 886, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 888. (NEW) The composition of claim 887, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 889. (NEW) The composition of claim 888, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 890. (NEW) The composition of claim 886, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 891. (NEW) The composition of claim 890, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 892. (NEW) The composition of claim 890, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 893. (NEW) The composition of claim 892, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 894. (NEW) The composition of claim 882, wherein said non-porous solid support is transparent or translucent. --

-- 895. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said solid support (i) has been treated with a surface treatment agent. --

-- 896. (NEW) The composition of claim 895, wherein said surface treatment agent is selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 897. (NEW) The composition of claim 895, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an amine compound. --

-- 898. (NEW) The composition of claim 897, wherein said amine compound is selected from the group consisting of duodecadiamine (DDA), polylysine (PPL), γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, ammonium acetate and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 899. (NEW) The composition of claim 896, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an epoxy compound. --

-- 900. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) is fixed or immobilized to said solid support (i) by a means selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 901. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) is fixed or immobilized directly or indirectly to said solid support (i). --

-- 902. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) is fixed or immobilized to said solid support (i) by sandwich hybridization. --

-- 903. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) is selected from the group consisting of double-stranded nucleic acid and partially double-stranded nucleic acid. --

-- 904. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA and a DNA-RNA hybrid. --

-- 905. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) or a sequence therefrom comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be quantified. --

-- 906. (NEW) The composition of claim 905, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced comprises a member selected from the group consisting of a gene or gene sequence, a pathogen or pathogenic sequence, an oncogene, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 907. (NEW) The composition of claim 906, wherein any of said members comprises a mutation selected from the group consisting of a deletion, an insertion, an inversion, a point mutation, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 908. (NEW) The composition of claim 905, wherein said complementary nucleic acid sequence or sequences are unlabeled. --

-- 909. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are the signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 910. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) comprise a signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said system or said solid support (i) or a collection or set of said solid supports (i), said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 911. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) comprise a signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said system or said solid support (i) or a collection or set of said solid supports (i), said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 912. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are attached covalently to at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 913. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are attached covalently to at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 914. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are attached directly or indirectly to said one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 915. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are attached directly or indirectly to said one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (ii) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 916. (NEW) The composition of claim 914, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said one strand or a sequence therefrom. --

- 917. (NEW) The composition of claim 915, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said one strand or a sequence therefrom. --
- 918. (NEW) The composition of claim 916, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --
- 919. (NEW) The composition of claim 917, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --
- 920. (NEW) The composition of claim 918, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --
- 921. (NEW) The composition of claim 919, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --
- 922. (NEW) The composition of claim 920, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --
- 923. (NEW) The composition of claim 921, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --
- 924. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels (iii) are covalently or non-covalently attached thereto. --
- 925. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels (iii) are directly attached thereto. --
- 926. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels (iii) are indirectly attached thereto. --
- 927. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 928. (NEW) The composition of claim 927, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 929. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 930. (NEW) The composition of claim 929, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 931. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein a quantifiable signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 932. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein a quantifiable signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said chemical label or labels (iii). --

-- 933. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 934. (NEW) The composition of claim 933, wherein said directly produced signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 935. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 936. (NEW) The composition of claim 935, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 937. (NEW) The composition of claim 936, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 938. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 939. (NEW) The composition of claim 938, wherein said directly produced signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 940. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 941. (NEW) The composition of claim 940, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 942. (NEW) The composition of claim 941, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 943. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 944. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagen compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 945. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein a signal is generated or generatable from said chemical label or labels (iii) by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 946. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein a signal is generated or generatable from said chemical label or labels (iii) by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 947. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 948. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 949. (NEW) The composition of claim 947, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 950. (NEW) The composition of claim 948, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 951. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein a signal from said signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable by photometric means. --

-- 952. (NEW) The composition of claim 909, wherein a signal from said signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable by photometric means. --

-- 953. (NEW) The composition of claim 951, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 954. (NEW) The composition of claim 952, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 955. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said photometric means for quantifying (iv) are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 956. (NEW) A composition of matter comprising:

a transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises:

a double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide which is directly or indirectly fixed or immobilized to said transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system;

a chemical label or labels attached to one of said strands, said label or labels comprising a signaling entity or entities which are quantifiable in or from said fluid or solution or in or through said system, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels; and

photometric means for quantifying said quantifiable signaling entity or entities. --

-- 957. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 958. (NEW) The composition of claim 957, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 959. (NEW) The composition of claim 958, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 960. (NEW) The composition of claim 959, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 961. (NEW) The composition of claim 957, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 962. (NEW) The composition of claim 961, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 963. (NEW) The composition of claim 961, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 964. (NEW) The composition of claim 963, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 965. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said system or a portion thereof has been treated with a surface treatment agent. --

-- 966. (NEW) The composition of claim 965, wherein said surface treatment agent is selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 967. (NEW) The composition of claim 966, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an amine compound. --

-- 968. (NEW) The composition of claim 967, wherein said amine compound is selected from the group consisting of dodecadiamine (DDA), polylysine (PPL), γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, ammonium acetate and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 969. (NEW) The composition of claim 966, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an epoxy compound. --

-- 970. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is fixed or immobilized to said system or a portion thereof by a means selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

- 971. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is fixed or immobilized directly or indirectly to said system or a portion thereof. --
- 972. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is fixed or immobilized to said system or a portion thereof by sandwich hybridization. --
- 973. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of double-stranded nucleic acid and partially double-stranded nucleic acid. --
- 974. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA and a DNA-RNA hybrid. --
- 975. (NEW) The solid support of claim 956, wherein one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide or a sequence therefrom comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be quantified. --
- 976. (NEW) The composition of claim 975, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be identified or quantified or sequenced comprises a member selected from the group consisting of a gene or gene sequence, a pathogen or pathogenic sequence, an oncogene, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --
- 977. (NEW) The composition of claim 976, wherein any of said members comprises a mutation selected from the group consisting of a deletion, an insertion, an inversion, a point mutation, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --
- 978. (NEW) The composition of claim 975, wherein said complementary nucleic acid sequence or sequences are unlabeled. --
- 979. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are the signaling moiety or moieties. --

- 980. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said chemical label or labels comprise a signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said system or a portion thereof, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --
- 981. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said chemical label or labels comprise a signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said system or a portion thereof, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --
- 982. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said chemical label or labels are attached covalently to at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide or a sequence therefrom. --
- 983. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said chemical label or labels are attached covalently to at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide or a sequence therefrom. --
- 984. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said chemical label or labels are attached directly or indirectly to said one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide or a sequence therefrom. --
- 985. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said chemical label or labels are attached directly or indirectly to said one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide or a sequence therefrom. --
- 986. (NEW) The composition of claim 984, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said one strand or a sequence therefrom. --
- 987. (NEW) The composition of claim 985, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said one strand or a sequence therefrom. --
- 988. (NEW) The composition of claim 986, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --

-- 989. (NEW) The composition of claim 987, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --

-- 990. (NEW) The composition of claim 988, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --

-- 991. (NEW) The composition of claim 989, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --

-- 992. (NEW) The composition of claim 990, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --

-- 993. (NEW) The composition of claim 991, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --

-- 994. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels are covalently or non-covalently attached thereto. --

-- 995. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels are directly attached thereto. --

-- 996. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels are indirectly attached thereto. --

-- 997. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said chemical label or labels comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 998. (NEW) The composition of claim 997, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 999. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said chemical label or labels comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 1000. (NEW) The composition of claim 999, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 1001. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein a quantifiable signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 1002. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein a quantifiable signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said chemical label or labels. --

-- 1003. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 1004. (NEW) The composition of claim 1003, wherein said directly produced signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1005. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 1006. (NEW) The composition of claim 1005, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 1007. (NEW) The composition of claim 1006, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 1008. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 1009. (NEW) The composition of claim 1008, wherein said directly produced signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1010. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 1011. (NEW) The composition of claim 1010, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 1012. (NEW) The composition of claim 1011, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 1013. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1014. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagen compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1015. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein a signal is generated or generatable from said chemical label or labels by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 1016. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein a signal is generated or generatable from said chemical label or labels by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 1017. (NEW) The composition of claim 873, wherein said chemical label or labels are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 1018. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein said chemical label or labels are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 1019. (NEW) The composition of claim 1017, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 1020. (NEW) The composition of claim 1018, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 1021. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein a signal from said signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable by photometric means. --

-- 1022. (NEW) The composition of claim 979, wherein a signal from said signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable by photometric means. --

-- 1023. (NEW) The composition of claim 1021, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1024. (NEW) The composition of claim 1022, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1025. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said photometric means for quantifying (iv) are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1026. (NEW) The composition of claim 956, wherein said photometric means for quantifying are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1027. (NEW) A transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system containing a fluid or solution, which system comprises:

(i) a double-stranded nucleic acid comprising an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide hybridized or hybridizable to an oligo- or polynucleotide sequence;

(ii) a chemical label or labels attached to one of said strands, said chemical label or labels comprising a signaling entity or entities which are quantifiable in or from said fluid or solution or in or through said system, said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels;

(iii) a solid support contained within said transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system, said solid support having directly or indirectly fixed or immobilized thereto said oligo- or polynucleotide sequence or said oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i), and

(iv) photometric means for quantifying said quantifiable signaling entity or entities. --

--1028. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said transparent non-porous or translucent non-porous system is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 1029. (NEW) The system of claim 1029, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 1030. (NEW) The system of claim 1029, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 1031. (NEW) The system of claim 1030, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 1032. (NEW) The system of claim 1028, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 1033. (NEW) The system of claim 1032, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 1034. (NEW) The system of claim 1032, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 1035. (NEW) The system of claim 1034, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 1036. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said solid support (iii) is selected from the group consisting of a porous solid support and a non-porous solid support. --

-- 1037. (NEW) The system of claim 1036, wherein said porous solid support (iii) comprises a porous polymeric material. --

-- 1038. (NEW) The system of claim 1037, wherein said porous polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of dextran and nitrocellulose. --

-- 1039. (NEW) The system of claim 1037, wherein said porous polymeric material comprises porous glass. --

-- 1040. (NEW) The system of claim 1036, wherein said non-porous solid support (iii) is selected from the group consisting of siliceous matter and non-porous polymeric material. --

-- 1041. (NEW) The system of claim 1040, wherein said siliceous matter comprises glass or a glass-coated surface. --

-- 1042. (NEW) The system of claim 1041, wherein said glass or glass-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 1043. (NEW) The system of claim 1042, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 1044. (NEW) The system of claim 1040, wherein said non-porous polymeric material comprises a plastic or plastic-coated surface. --

-- 1045. (NEW) The system of claim 1044, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polyepoxide. --

-- 1046. (NEW) The system of claim 1044, wherein said plastic or plastic-coated surface is selected from the group consisting of plates, wells, depressions, tubes, cuvettes and a collection or set of said plates, wells, depressions, tubes or cuvettes. --

-- 1047. (NEW) The system of claim 1046, wherein said wells comprise microtiter wells. --

-- 1048. (NEW) The system of claim 1036, wherein said non-porous solid support is transparent or translucent. --

-- 1049. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said solid support (iii) or a portion thereof has been treated with a surface treatment agent. --

-- 1050. (NEW) The system of claim 1049, wherein said surface treatment agent is selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 1051. (NEW) The system of claim 1050, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an amine compound. --

-- 1052. (NEW) The system of claim 1051, wherein said amine compound is selected from the group consisting of duodecylamine (DDA), polylysine (PPL), γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, ammonium acetate and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 1053. (NEW) The system of claim 1050, wherein said surface treatment agent comprises an epoxy compound. --

-- 1054. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) is fixed or immobilized to said solid support (iii) by a means selected from the group consisting of an amine compound and an epoxy compound. --

-- 1055. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) is fixed or immobilized directly or indirectly to said solid support (iii). --

-- 1056. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) is fixed or immobilized to said solid support (iii) by sandwich hybridization. --

-- 1057. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) is selected from the group consisting of double-stranded nucleic acid and partially double-stranded nucleic acid. --

-- 1058. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA and a DNA-RNA hybrid. --

-- 1059. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) or a sequence therefrom comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be quantified. --

-- 1060. (NEW) The system of claim 1059, wherein said nucleic acid sequence of interest or sought to be quantified comprises a member selected from the group consisting of a gene or gene sequence, a pathogen or pathogenic sequence, an oncogene, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 1061. (NEW) The system of claim 1060, wherein any of said members comprises a mutation selected from the group consisting of a deletion, an insertion, an inversion, a point mutation, and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 1062. (NEW) The system of claim 1059, wherein said complementary nucleic acid sequence or sequences are unlabeled. --

-- 1063. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) are the signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 1064. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) comprise a signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said system or said solid support (i) or a collection or set of said solid supports (iii), said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 1065. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) comprise a signaling moiety or moieties which are quantifiable in or from a fluid or solution or in or through said system or said solid support (iii) or a collection or set of said solid supports (iii), said quantity being proportional to the amount or quantity of said label or labels. --

-- 1066. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) are attached covalently to at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 1067. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) are attached covalently to at least one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 1068. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) are attached directly or indirectly to said one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 1069. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) are attached directly or indirectly to said one strand of said double-stranded oligonucleotide or polynucleotide (i) or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 1070. (NEW) The system of claim 1068, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said one strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 1071. (NEW) The system of claim 1069, wherein said direct or indirect attachment is through one or more nucleotides in said one strand or a sequence therefrom. --

-- 1072. (NEW) The system of claim 1070, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --

-- 1073. (NEW) The system of claim 1071, wherein said attachment is indirectly through a bridging entity or a formation of a complex. --

-- 1074. (NEW) The system of claim 1072, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --

-- 1075. (NEW) The system of claim 1073, wherein said bridging entity or complex is covalently or non-covalently attached. --

-- 1076. (NEW) The system of claim 1072, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --

-- 1077. (NEW) The system of claim 1073, wherein said bridging entity or complex is selected from the group consisting of biotin and avidin, biotin and streptavidin, a sugar and a lectin, and an antigen and an antibody. --

-- 1078. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels (ii) are covalently or non-covalently attached thereto. --

-- 1079. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels (ii) are directly attached thereto. --

-- 1080. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties of said chemical label or labels (ii) are indirectly attached thereto. --

-- 1081. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 1082. (NEW) The system of claim 1081, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 1083. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) comprise indicator molecules. --

-- 1084. (NEW) The system of claim 1083, wherein said indicator molecules are selected from the group consisting of a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a combination of any of the foregoing. --

-- 1085. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein a quantifiable signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said signaling moiety or moieties. --

-- 1086. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein a quantifiable signal is generated or generatable directly or indirectly from said chemical label or labels (ii). --

-- 1087. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 1088. (NEW) The system of claim 1087, wherein said directly produced signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1089. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 1090. (NEW) The system of claim 1089, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 1091. (NEW) The system of claim 1090, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 1092. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are directly produced. --

-- 1093. (NEW) The system of claim 1092, wherein said directly produced signaling moiety or moieties comprise a member selected from the group consisting of a chromagen, a fluorogen and chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1094. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced. --

-- 1095. (NEW) The system of claim 1094, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are indirectly produced by an enzyme or enzymatic reaction. --

-- 1096. (NEW) The system of claim 1095, wherein said enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphatase, acid phosphatase, peroxidase, β -D-galactosidase and glucose oxidase. --

-- 1097. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagenic compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1098. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said signaling moiety or moieties are selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a co-enzyme, a chelating compound, a chromagen compound, a fluorescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound. --

-- 1099. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein a signal is generated or generatable from said chemical label or labels (ii) by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 1100. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein a signal is generated or generatable from said chemical label or labels (ii) by a means selected from the group consisting of chromagenic means, fluorescent means and chemiluminescent means. --

-- 1101. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said chemical label or labels (ii) are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 1102. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein said chemical label or labels (iii) are selected from the group consisting of a colored compound, a chemiluminescent compound and a fluorescent compound. --

-- 1103. (NEW) The system of claim 1101, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 1104. (NEW) The system of claim 1102, wherein said colored compound comprises a dye. --

-- 1105. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein a signal from said signaling moiety or moieties is quantifiable by photometric means. --

-- 1106. (NEW) The system of claim 1063, wherein a signal from said chemical label or labels (ii) is quantifiable by photometric means. --

-- 1107. (NEW) The system of claim 1105, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1108. (NEW) The system of claim 1106, wherein said photometric means are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1109. (NEW) The system of claim 1107, wherein said photometric means for quantifying (iv) are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques. --

-- 1110. (NEW) The system of claim 1027, wherein said photometric means for quantifying are selected from the group consisting of photometric techniques, spectrophotometric techniques, colorimetric techniques, fluorometric techniques and chemiluminescent techniques.

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Written Description Amended
or New Claims, or Claims Asserting
the Benefit of an Earlier Filing Date

Decision Tree

